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FOREST INSECT AND DISEASE DETECTION SURVEY ON THE DEERLODGE NATIONAL FOREST, MONTANA

by

Hubert E. Meyer - Biological Technician (Insects)
Forest Insect and Disease Branch

During July and August an aerial insect and disease detection survey was conducted on the Deerlodge National Forest. The following is a brief review of current conditions.

MOUNTAIN PINE BEETLE AND PINE ENGRAVER, Dendroctonus ponderosae Hopk., and Ips pini (Say)--Mountain pine beetle and pine engraver beetle were chiefly evident in ponderosa pine in the Rock Creek drainage. Considerable recent logging activity may have aggravated the Ips problem.

DOUGLAS-FIR BEETLE, Dendroctonus pseudotsugae Hopk.--Douglas-fir beetle is also evident in Rock Creek. This long-standing infestation shows little change from 1970. Inspection from the ground showed that the Douglas-fir beetle was active in Cornish Gulch and Strong Creek drainages. One area in Cornish Gulch contained 12 trees that were attacked in 1971.

WESTERN SPRUCE BUDWORM, Choristoneura occidentalis Free.--Western spruce budworm, which has been active on the Deerlodge National Forest for several years, is still increasing. Defoliation was visible in most of the Douglas-fir stands on the Forest in 1971.